

Message Text

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ORIGIN EB-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 EA-11 ISO-00 FEA-02 AEC-11 AID-20

CEA-02 CIAE-00 CIEP-03 COME-00 DODE-00 FPC-01 H-03

INR-11 INT-08 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 OMB-01 PM-07 RSC-01

SAM-01 SCI-06 SP-03 SS-20 STR-08 TRSE-00 FRB-03 PA-04

USIA-15 PRS-01 /189 R

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

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AMEMBASSY PARIS

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AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY BERNE

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

AMEMBASSY MADRID

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG

SUBJECT: POSSIBLE EXPANSION OF IEP MEMBERSHIP

1. AT CLOSE OF ECG WORKING GROUP SESSION SEPTEMBER 7, BELGIAN DELEGATE (DENIS) REPORTED BRIEFLY ON RESULTS OF ECG CHAIRMAN DAVIGNON'S DISCUSSIONS WITH REPS OF AUSTRALIA, NEW ZEALAND, SWEDEN, AND SWITZERLAND ON THEIR POSSIBLE PARTICIPATION ON IEP.

2. ACCORDING TO DENIS, ALL FOUR COUNTRIES DEMONSTRATED COMPREHENSION OF MAJOR ELEMENTS OF IEP. THEY RAISED NO SIGNIFICANT OBJECTION TO ANY OF THE BASIC COMMITMENTS OF THE PROGRAM. ALL EXPRESSED INTEREST IN PARTICIPATION (WITH SWEDES AND SWISS SHARING GREATEST INTEREST). ALL BELIEVED FRENCH PARTICIPATION WAS IMPORTANT AS WAS ASSIGNMENT OF FOLLOW-ON TO OECD AND ALL FELT THAT FOR THEIR COUNTRY TO JOIN IEP, SOME TYPE OF FACE-SAVING GESTURE ALLOWING THEM TO PARTICIPATE IN ECG DELIBERATION BEFORE CONCLUSION OF AGREEMENT WOULD BE DESIRABLE.

3. SWEDEN - SWEDES STRESSED THEIR COUNTRY'S DEPENDENCE ON IMPORTED OIL BY WAY OF EXPLAINING THEIR STRONG INTEREST IN THE PROGRAM. THEY HAD NO TECHNICAL PROBLEMS WITH IEP BUT POINTED OUT THAT BECAUSE OF THEIR NEUTRALITY STANCE, IT WOULD BE VERY DIFFICULT FOR SWEDEN TO PARTICIPATE IN ALLOCATION EXERCISE IF CRISIS IN QUESTION AROSE OUT OF

EAST-WEST CONFLICT. DAVIGNON MADE NO RESPONSE TO SWEDES ON THIS POINT.

4. SWITZERLAND - SWISS SAID THEY HAD GREAT INTEREST IN PRINCIPLE IN JOINING PROGRAM AND FAVOR RAPID IMPLEMENTATION. THEY FAVOR ASSIGNMENT TO OECD BUT THIS NOT ESSENTIAL CONDITION TO THEIR PARTICIPATION. THEY ALSO BELIEVE PROGRAM SHOULD HAVE WIDE MEMBERSHIP INCLUDING ALL OECD MEMBERS WHO PREPARED SHOULD THE OBLIGATION. BOTH SWEDES AND SWISS INDICATED THEY MAY SEEK DISCUSS PROGRAM AGAIN WITH DAVIGNON BEFORE SEPTEMBER 19-20 ECG MEETING.

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5. AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND - UK DELEGATE SUPPLEMENTED DENIS' COMMENTS, NOTING BRITISH BELIEF THAT BOTH AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND ARE POSITIVELY INCLINED TOWARD PARTICIPATION AND MAY ARRIVE AT OFFICIAL DECISION ON QUESTION WITHIN NEXT FEW WEEKS.

6. AUSTRIA - DENIS REPORTED THAT WHILE AUSTRIA HAD NOT YET HAD DETAILED CONSULTATIONS WITH DAVIGNON, GOA HAD

INDICATED INTEREST IN EXPLORING POSSIBILITY OF PARTICI-
PATION. HE SAID THAT AUSTRIANS HAD INDICATED THEY MIGHT
ASK FOR DETAILED BRIEFING FROM DAVIGNON WEEK OF SEPTEMBER
9. KISSINGER

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